

## What's in this Issue

Articles.....	Page 1
Accreditation .....	Page 3
Funding Opportunities.....	Page 4
Training and Conference Announcements.....	Page 5
News & Resources.....	Page 8
Job Postings.....	Page 10

## Health in 3D - Diversity, Disparity and Social Determinants



A new course, Health in 3D: Diversity, Disparities and Social Determinants, Course ID# 1063291, on [KS-TRAIN](#), went live in April for the Kansas public health workforce. This educational offering supported by the [Reach Foundation](#), explains how diversity, disparities and social determinants (3D's) apply to your work in public health and is

essential in order to effectively deliver public health services. One goal of this training is to help participants look at diversity from a broader perspective and think about populations that are present in Kansas. It is important to understand that one's history, experience, age and geographic location are all part of diversity—not just one's racial or ethnic background. This training will provide more information with stories from Kansans themselves.

## Spring 2016 Regional Public Health Meetings Scheduled

*by Teri Caudle, RN, PHN, Local Public Health Program  
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE*



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

The 2016 Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) sponsored regional public health meetings are designed to connect local health departments (LHD) with programs and best practices that will benefit the work you do within your communities. They also provide the opportunity to network with other administrators and public health professionals. These meetings are planned for the local LHD administrator; however any staff person interested in a particular topic is welcome to attend. Register on [KS-TRAIN](http://ks.train.org) <http://ks.train.org>, Course ID# 1062831.

The agenda includes the following: What Can I Expect? Alzheimer's Association Regional Staff; Update on Kansas Local Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), Ghazala Perveen, Director of Science and Surveillance and Pratik Pandya, Advanced Epidemiologist, KDHE; Clinical Responsibilities for Coding and Billing, Aaron Davis, Project Manager, WSU Community Engagement Center, Public Health Initiatives.

The dates and locations for the meetings are:

- SC Region, Hutchinson - May 4
- SW Region, Garden City - May 11
- NW Region, Oakley - May 12
- NC Region, Beloit - June 1
- NE Region, Topeka - June 14

If you have ideas for regional meeting topics please contact Teri Caudle at [tcaudle@kdheks.gov](mailto:tcaudle@kdheks.gov).

## Great Plains Leadership Institute 12<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary - Applications Due May 13

*by Katie Brandert, Director, Great Plains Leadership Institute*



**COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE**

The Great Plains Leadership Institute kicks off in September and is designed for emerging, mid-level and senior leaders from the Great Plains Region, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, South Dakota and others, who play essential roles in keeping communities healthy. Scholars come from governmental public health, insurance companies, community health centers, civic and elected positions, community-based organizations, the business community and more.

[Apply to the Great Plains Leadership Institute](#) by clicking the logo above. Two scholarships of \$2,000 each will be available for Kansas participants provided by the [Midwestern Public Health Training Center](#). Priority will go to local & state health department employees in leadership roles. Please contact [Suzanne.hawley@wichita.edu](mailto:Suzanne.hawley@wichita.edu) confirming your intention to apply and any questions related to the scholarship. Additional partial scholarship may also be available to Kansas scholars, dependent on overall need and available funding, through the Great Plains Leadership Institute.

Check out the Great Plains Leadership refreshed and enhanced competencies and curriculum [here](#). Applications are due May 13. Questions and applications are to be directed to Katie Brandert, [kbrandert@unmc.edu](mailto:kbrandert@unmc.edu) or 402-552-7256.

## Nominate a Health Literacy Kansas Trailblazer - Deadline May 30

by Amy Chesser, Assistant Professor, Department of Public Health Sciences  
College of Health Professions, Wichita State University



Health Literacy Kansas is looking for exceptional people to be nominated for this year's [Health Literacy Kansas Trailblazer Award](#). Is there someone in your office or organization, including yourself, that you think is a health literacy superstar, a clear communications wiz or a plain language pioneer? If so, it's time to nominate them for making a difference through health literacy in our state. Award winners must be working in Kansas-based government, business or public service nonprofit organizations and may have done some or all of the following: Designed or re-designed programs, tools, curricula or health-related processes to remove literacy-related barriers; led or participated in health literacy research to make a difference in our state; increased access to health information and health care in a community or throughout the state; or improved health communications skills of agency and health care workers. The awardee will be announced at the Kansas Public Health Association Annual Meeting and the Health Literacy Summit Tribute Awards Dinner. To nominate someone, send a brief bio, JPEG photo and 500-word essay on why your nominee deserves the award by 5 p.m. Monday, May 30. Send your nominations to Amy K. Chesser, [amy.chesser@wichita.edu](mailto:amy.chesser@wichita.edu). Click the logo above to access the nomination form.

## Is Your IT Infrastructure Protected from Ransomware

by the Kansas Intelligence Fusion Center



The Kansas Intelligence Fusion Center has assessed with high confidence that critical infrastructure systems in Kansas will be [exploited by Ransomware](#) throughout 2016 and the foreseeable future based on a large body of both national reporting and on dialogues with cybersecurity partners throughout the state and region. They also assess with high confidence that many entities in Kansas are not prepared to deal with this threat and will be forced to pay malicious actors or permanently lose critical data.

Ransomware is a form of malware used by criminal actors to deny user access to critical data. Ransomware achieves this through encryption of the data unbeknownst to the user and then offers a decryption key in exchange for bitcoins or other currency. Although Ransomware has existed since 1989, nextgen ransomware is evolving in complexity and has emerged as the preferred tool for criminal cyber actors because of ease of use and effectiveness. Current Ransomware iterations may encrypt data while offline, have signatures only minimally detected by anti-virus, and may not require the operating system to run prior to booting. While Ransomware affecting home users may only extort them for a couple hundred dollars, Ransomware targeting critical infrastructure and key resources may demand tens of thousands.

State government entities in Kansas affected by Ransomware should immediately contact 785-296-0814 to report the incident. The Kansas Intelligence Fusion (KIFC) center is interested in partnerships with private sector critical infrastructure entities within the state. The KIFC may be reached at [intelligence.fusion@ag.ks.gov](mailto:intelligence.fusion@ag.ks.gov) for intel support. [Click here](#) to access the Kansas Intelligence Fusion Center's Information Graphic on Ransomware.

## Dairy 3 for Me Campaign

by Marley Sugar, Health & Wellness Program Manager  
Midwest Dairy Council



Do you get three servings of dairy every single day? Like most Americans, your answer is probably no. To help families be more successful in meeting the Dietary Guidelines recommendation and to ensure they aren't missing out on key nutrients dairy foods provide, Midwest Dairy Council has launched the [Dairy 3 for Me campaign](#), encouraging folks to pledge to eat three servings of dairy every day. If you haven't yet, please personally take the [#Dairy3forMe pledge](#) and take the first step toward getting your three recommended servings of dairy every day. We are shooting for 5,000 or more pledges before the end of June! If you want to learn more please reach out to Marley Sugar at [msugar@midwestdairy.com](mailto:msugar@midwestdairy.com).

## Thanks, Public Health!

If you're like most people you experience gratitude many times each day. Most often, we're thankful for things that happen — from the simple act of someone holding a door for you to experiencing the recovery of a loved one following an illness. You probably say "thanks" so many times in a day that you can't recall each specific instance. While it's easy to be thankful for kind acts, good experiences and things that bring joy and satisfaction into your life, it's harder to recognize and be thankful for things that don't happen. Such it is with public health — a discipline whose achievements are often notable for what it prevents. When public health is working, bad things don't happen — and as a result public health programs tend to be invisible. Let's take a moment today to be [thankful for some of the many "invisible" achievements of public health](#).



Handouts and Presentations from the Governor's Public Health Conference are available on the Kansas Department of Health and Environment [website](#).

## Evidence-Based Public Health Course Scheduled for November 2016

*by the Bureau of Health Promotion*



Save the date for the 2016 Evidence-Based Public Health Course, November 14 - 16 in Topeka. The topics, techniques and tools provided will enhance understanding of the principles of health assessment, improvement planning and evaluation. Applied use of evidence-based interventions at the state and local levels is critical to achieving successful public health outcomes, a skilled and adaptable workforce, and more efficient and effective use of resources. This training is offered by the Bureau of Health Promotion, Kansas Department of Health and Environment in collaboration with the University of Kansas School of Medicine. Adapted from the Prevention Research Center in St. Louis' highly regarded Evidence-Based Public Health Course, the Kansas course features state specific data, insight from successful Kansas initiatives and guidance from instructors who practice public health in Kansas. As state and local health departments prepare for public health accreditation, the topics, techniques and tools provided through this course will enhance current understanding of principles of health assessment, improvement planning, and evaluation. The training blends online modules with a face to face experience for the public health workforce in practice. Questions can be directed to [gpark@kdheks.gov](mailto:gpark@kdheks.gov).

## June is Dairy Month - Spread the Word

*by Marley Sugar, Health & Wellness Program Manager*

*Midwest Dairy Council*



Start planning now for June Dairy Month and help spread the word about the benefits of dairy foods. Midwest Dairy Council is offering an [online toolkit](#) to help health and nutrition professionals get an early start on plans for June. The toolkit includes a variety of customizable materials like newsletter and blog content, fact sheets and suggested social media postings and graphics. If you want to learn more please reach out to Marley Sugar at [msugar@midwestdairy.com](mailto:msugar@midwestdairy.com)

## Healthy Community Design



Your address can play an important role in how long you live and how healthy you are. The [physical design of your community](#) affects your health every time you step out your front door. Sometimes making healthy choices is not easy—being physically active is hard if you do not have access to sidewalks or parks, and eating right is hard if healthy foods are not available.

## ACCREDITATION CORNER

### Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships - May to June Webinars



[Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships](#) (MAPP) is a community-driven strategic planning process for improving community health. Facilitated by public health leaders, this framework helps communities apply strategic thinking to prioritize public health issues and identify resources to address them. MAPP is not an agency-focused assessment process; rather, it is an interactive process that can improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and ultimately the performance of local public health systems.

#### Upcoming Webinars:

- Identifying Strategic Issues and Formulating Goals and Strategies, Wednesday, May 11, 1:15 - 2:00 p.m. [Register here](#). During this webinar, Tiffany Huang, Program Analyst on Performance Improvement, will describe the purpose and phases of the MAPP process, how MAPP can be used to achieve community health improvement goals, how to identify strategic issues and formulate goals and strategies, and where to find resources for MAPP implementation.
- Action Cycle and Evaluation, Wednesday, June 8, 1:15 - 2:00 p.m. [Register here](#). During this webinar, Pooja Verma, Sr. Program Analyst on Performance Improvement, will describe the purpose and phases of the MAPP process, how MAPP can be used to achieve community health improvement goals, develop an action cycle, evaluate the MAPP process, and where to find resources for MAPP implementation.

### Newly Available Online Performance Improvement Resource for the Public Health Community

*from the Public Health Foundation*



The [Competencies for Performance Improvement Professionals in Public Health](#) are a set of skills desirable for performance improvement professionals working in public health. These draft competencies may be useful for activities such as developing job descriptions and performance objectives, conducting performance reviews and evaluations, and creating workforce training plans. To support the work of performance improvement professionals, the Public Health Foundation (PHF) has collected [resources and tools related to each of the 14 performance improvement competencies](#). These resources and tools from PHF and national partners are sorted by competency and can be used for a variety of performance improvement initiatives and activities. Not sure if these competencies and resources apply to you? [Find out if you are a performance improvement professional and how you can provide feedback](#) or suggest resources to add to this growing collection.



## Funding Opportunities

### Blue Cross and Blue Shield's Pathways to a Healthy Kansas Letter of Intent - Due May 6



For nearly 75 years, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas (BCBSKS) has been committed to improving the health of Kansans. To further that commitment, Blue Cross has created Pathways to a Healthy Kansas, a new initiative in which we envision Kansans living in healthy communities that provide the highest possible quality of life and well-being. The first step in Pathways to a Healthy Kansas is to invite Kansas communities in our service area to apply for a new community grant program which Blue Cross is funding. Please visit their website at <http://www.bcbsks.com/Pathways/> for more details about the initiative and to complete the online letter of intent. Funded communities will work across sectors that are a part of residents' everyday lives to create healthy places where people can be active, live well and come together as an engaged community to improve the quality of lives now and for future generations. The funding opportunity is offering a maximum of eight communities across the BCBSKS service area a three-year Coordination Grant of up to \$100,000. In addition, communities that are awarded the Coordination Grant will be eligible to apply for non-competitive Implementation Grants and Achievement Grants as they meet milestones in the initiative – totaling a maximum of \$315,000 per community. Questions can be directed to Virginia Barnes, MPH Director, Blue Health Initiatives Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas at 785-291-8004.

### American Dental Association Announces Access to Care Grants - Deadline July 29



The [American Dental Association](http://www.ada.org) (ADA) Foundation is now accepting applications for its Semi-Annual Grants Program: Access to Care.

- Please read the complete [grant information and guidelines document](#).
- Apply online at <https://www.grantinterface.com/adafoundation/common/logon.aspx>.

All grant applications must be submitted through this online system in order to be considered for funding from the ADA Foundation. The application deadline is 11:59 p.m., Friday, July 29. The ADA Foundation hopes to announce the selected grantees in November or early December. The applicant will need to create a user log in first, and will then have access to all documents. To find the grant application click apply on the left hand side in the grant online system once a user log in has been created. Please note that the user will be taken to a third party website to complete an application. If you have any questions contact Tracey Schilligo, Grants Manager at [schilligot@ada.org](mailto:schilligot@ada.org) or at 312-440-2763.

The ADA Foundation is committed to supporting U.S. based organizations exempt from taxation under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code whose charitable activities within or without the United States provide access to care and dental homes to the underserved. The ADAF defines the dental home as the ongoing relationship between the dentist who is the primary dental care provider and the patient, which includes comprehensive oral health care, beginning before age one, and continuing throughout the patient's lifetime, with appropriate referral as necessary.

U.S. based organizations exempt from taxation under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code are eligible to apply. Grants will be awarded up to, but not exceed, \$10,000 in the case of Access to Care grants and 5,000 in the case of Education grants. Organizations may submit only one grant request per year for Semi-annual Grant funding under Education, and one grant request per year for Semi-annual Grant funding under Access to Care.

### Walmart Community Grant Program Opportunities



Walmart believes in operating globally and giving back locally – creating impact in the neighborhoods where employees live and work. Through the Community Grant Program, Walmart associates are proud to support the needs of their communities by providing grants to local organizations. Before applying, please note the 2016 grant cycle began February 1 with the application deadline to apply December 31. Applications may be submitted at any time during this funding cycle. Please note that applications will only remain pending in the Walmart system for 90 days. Awarded grants range from \$250 to \$2,500. Applications must be completed in full and submitted online to be considered. Submitting an online application does not guarantee funding. Organizations applying include the following:

- An organization holding a current tax-exempt status under Section 501(c) (3), (4), (6) or (19) of the Internal Revenue Code;
- A recognized government entity: state, county, or city agency, including law enforcement or fire departments, that are requesting funds exclusively for public purposes;

All organizations must verify that they meet the eligibility requirements. This may require submitting a support ticket through Cybergrants. The facility manager and the grant administrator reserve the right to adjust the amount awarded to each organization without prior notice.

Please read the [Community Grant Guidelines](#) before beginning [your application](#).

Community Giving Program Links:

- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Community Grant Guidelines](#)

# Training and Conference Announcements

## 2016 Schedule Meetings and Conferences Impacting Local Public Health Agencies

[Click Here](#) to Access the Calendar

### Recruiting Stepping On Program Leaders - May 3,4,5

*by the Bureau of Health Promotion, KDHE*



Stepping On is a program that helps older adults reduce falls. The program incorporates a range of issues including falls and risks, strength and balance exercises, medication review, vision exams, home safety, safe footwear, and what to do and how to cope after a fall. The Stepping On course consists of seven two-hour weekly classes, a home assessment at three months and a six-month follow-up. Stepping On is research-based and scientifically proven to reduce falls by more than 30 percent among participants.

Individuals who have successfully completed a three-day Leader Training facilitate Stepping On community workshops. Stepping On Master Trainers are holding a Leader Training on May 3, 4 and 5 in WaKeeney. If you are interested in learning more about becoming a Stepping On Leader in Kansas, please contact Lori Haskett at 785-296-8163 or [lhaskett@kdheks.gov](mailto:lhaskett@kdheks.gov). Visit <https://wihealthyaging.org/stepping-on> to learn more about Stepping On.

### Rural Health Grant Writing Workshop - May 4 & 5, Hays

*by Sara Roberts, Director,*

*Kansas Office of Primary Care and Rural Health, KDHE*



Join the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health and the Kansas Office of Primary Care and Rural Health for a 1.5 day rural health-focused grant writing workshop, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., May 4 and 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., May 5 at the Best Western Butterfield Inn, Hays. This interactive training will explore how to identify funders and prepare a successful grant application including: grant planning, developing an effective needs statement, writing goals and objectives, preparing work plans, identifying key personnel and creating realistic budgets.

Who should attend:

- Organizations and individuals: rural healthcare providers, clinics, hospitals, public health professionals who wish to address rural health issues in their community.
- Beginning grant writers seeking to understand the techniques to research and draft winning grant proposals.

There is a \$30 fee to cover lunch and workshop materials. To register for this event [click here](#). Contact Ashley Muninger, [ashleym@nosorh.org](mailto:ashleym@nosorh.org) or 620-481-9797 with questions.

### NURSE Corps Scholarship Program - Deadline May 5



The 2016 NURSE Corps Scholarship Program application cycle is now open and will close on May 5, 8:30 p.m. Please refer to the [2016 Application and Program Guidance](#) for all of the program requirements. NURSE Corps Scholarship Program enables students accepted or enrolled in a diploma, associate, baccalaureate or graduate nursing program, including RN to BSN, RN to MSN-NP, Direct Entry MSN-NP program to receive funding for tuition, fees and other educational costs in exchange for working at an eligible NURSE Corps site upon graduation.

### Public Health Improvement Training - Registration Deadline, May 10



The Public Health Improvement Training (PHIT): Advancing Performance in

Agencies, Systems & Communities to be held Wednesday, June 15 and Thursday, June 16 in Baltimore, Md., offers a variety of hands-on training workshops and networking opportunities to take action in public health performance improvement topics such as, performance management, quality improvement, national voluntary accreditation, health assessment and improvement planning and workforce development.

PHIT attendees have the opportunity to network and participate in a variety of interactive learning and skill-building sessions designed for different experience levels. PHIT is produced by the National Network of Public Health Institutes, in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. There is a \$150 fee to attend and register early to save your seat. To read more about this learning event [click here](#).

### Kansas Community Health Worker Symposium - May 11



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Wichita State University –

Community Engagement Institute, and the Kansas Health Foundation invite you to a [Kansas Community Health Worker \(CHW\) Symposium](#) May 11 in Wichita. The event will provide a venue where all stakeholders can better understand the progress and barriers associated with CHWs specific to Kansas; offer an opportunity for networking among the CHWs and their organizations across the state and focus on designing CHW infrastructure and systems rather than skill building. The long-term goal of the CHW Symposium is to help reduce health disparities and increase access to care through CHWs in Kansas. Click [here](#) to access the symposium invitation and registration information.

## Personal Protective Equipment Training, Use and Practice for Health and Medical Personnel Dates Scheduled Through June of 2016



Make plans to attend one of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment sponsored trainings on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). The course is presented by the Kansas National Guard, 73<sup>rd</sup> Civil Support Team and is designed to provide attendees with information and ample time for hands on practice of donning and doffing. Course content focuses on highly infectious disease events. Specific course information and registration for the PPE training is on KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>, course ID# 1056977. Space in each class is limited, so mark your calendar and register now to attend. There is no fee to attend this course.

The following are the dates and locations scheduled for the trainings. For detailed course information and address for training venue, go to KS-TRAIN.

- May 17, 2016 - Marysville
- May 18, 2016 - Abilene
- June 8, 2016 - Oakley
- June 9, 2016 - Beloit

If you have questions, or need additional information, contact Lisa Williams, [lawilliams@kdheks.gov](mailto:lawilliams@kdheks.gov) or 785-296-1984.

## CDC Launches New 2016 Packaging and Shipping Division 6.2 Materials Course



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Launched in March a new Packaging and Shipping Division 6.2 Materials: What the Laboratorian Should Know for 2016, Course ID #1062513. In order to be certified, or recertified, to ship laboratory materials you must complete training on the hazardous materials regulations as well as some facility specific training. This online course uses a problem solving approach to provide training on infectious Division 6.2 Materials as specified in the Department of Transportation regulations. The content includes some general security training as well as some guidance on facility specific training. Access to resource documents and a number of job aids will not only enhance your learning experience but also provide useful resources for your laboratory. This course is designed specifically for those who participate in any phase of shipping laboratory specimens within the United States.

The course, KHEL: Preparing Clinical Specimens Related to Chemical or Biological Exposure Using Evidence Control Measures (CESSL), Course ID #1050287, is an intermediate-level 45 minute training. It is an overview of regulations and procedures associated with evidentiary control measures taken when shipping clinical specimens to the Kansas Department of Health and Environmental Laboratories after a known or unknown chemical exposure event has occurred. This course is offered to ensure all laboratory staff across Kansas receive the full training needed to fully support their responsibilities as sentinel laboratory staff members.

If you have staff who have completed the Division 6.2 Infectious Materials course via another venue, other than the CDC online course on KS-TRAIN, they should contact Sara Hoffman at the Kansas Health and Environmental Laboratories. Sara will enroll your employee into the CESSL course, #1050287. You can reach her at [shoffman@kdheks.gov](mailto:shoffman@kdheks.gov) or 785-291-3162.

## Introduction to Billing and Business Processes for Local Kansas Health Departments



WICHITA STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT  
INSTITUTE

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and the Wichita State University - Center for Public Health Initiatives have posted a two-part training for both new and experienced administrators, billers and office managers. This training is a reprise of the presentation presented at the KDHE regional meetings during the spring of 2015, and gives a high level overview of the billing workflow utilized in departments. Focusing on organizational competencies, as part of the Foundational Public Health Services and Capabilities Model, this training provides an introduction to performance and financial management as applied to the billing process.

For more information, or to access this training on KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>, search for Introduction to Local Health Department Billing and Business Practices, course ID # 1062321.

## Healthy Habit Modules Updated



The Kansas Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics with Sarah Hampl, MD, General Pediatrics and Weight Management, Center for Children's Healthy Lifestyles & Nutrition, Children's Mercy-Kansas City have recently reviewed and updated the content for the [KS-TRAIN](#) Healthy Habit module series. These modules provide information and resources when assisting children and their parents in preventing childhood obesity. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention childhood obesity has more than doubled in children and quadrupled in adolescents in the past 30 years. The Healthy Habit series include the following modules:

- Healthy Habits, Module 1: Obesity in Kansas Children, A Growing Epidemic, Course ID# 1015996
- Healthy Habits, Module 2: Negotiating Behavior – the Road to Long Term Change, Course ID# 1016561
- Healthy Habits, Module 3: Expert Committee Recommendations on the Assessment & Treatment of Child and Adolescent Overweight and Obesity, Course ID# 1016562
- Healthy Habits, Module 4: Preventing Childhood Obesity: Your Role as a Pediatric Provider, Course ID# 1016563



### Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication Introductory Training Available Through KS-TRAIN



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has a Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication (CERC) online module posted to [KS-TRAIN](#). The CERC basic online training is designed to increase knowledge and develop competencies in crisis and emergency risk communication practices and strategies. Content is derived from lessons learned during public health emergencies and research in the fields of public health and emergency risk communication.

### Online Education Offering for Dietician's Available through the National Dairy Council



National Dairy Council's Nutrition Research Team, together with the United States Department of Agriculture and Arkansas Children's Nutrition Center, hosted the Childhood Health & Nutrition Conference in Little Rock, Arkansas early this year to examine the current state of nutrition science from bench-top to application. The goal of the conference was to discuss emerging scientific evidence on childhood nutrition and health. All of the conference materials including presentations, videos and other resources are [now available](#) online. You can watch the live presentations from the comfort of your home or office. Eight CEUs for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists are available to those who either attended the conference in person or review the uploaded material by March 1, 2017. Additionally, two peer reviewed manuscripts will be published later this year to highlight the research gaps and future direction discussed in each panel.

### Public Health 101 Series of Online Course Modules



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has posted on KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>, a Public Health 101 series of modules. The Public Health 101 Series is a set of courses that provides an introduction to public health and covers the sciences essential to public health practice. The fundamental scientific components span topics in epidemiology, public health informatics and surveillance, health economics, public health laboratory science and related fields. This series is useful for someone needing a broad introduction to the highlighted subjects, including environmental, behavioral, chronic and infectious diseases. The Introduction to Prevention Effectiveness course has been recommended as a good overview for policy makers.

This series is designed for:

- Public health professionals who have not had formal training in a particular core area or who would like a refresher
- Persons new to public health
- Public health educators and instructors
- Persons interested in pursuing public health careers

The Public Health 101 Series includes:

- Introduction to Public Health - Public Health 101 Series, Course ID# 1059661
- Introduction to Epidemiology - Public Health 101 Series, Course ID# 1059662
- Introduction to Public Health Surveillance - Public Health 101 Series, Course ID# 1059516
- Introduction to Public Health Laboratories - Public Health 101 Series, Course ID# 1059672
- Introduction to Prevention Effectiveness - Public Health 101 Series, Course ID# 1059675
- Introduction to Public Health Informatics - Public Health 101 Series, Course ID# 1059676

### New TRAIN Online Courses to Check Out



[Communicating Public Health Message Design Strategies to Promote Awareness and Action to Address the Social Determinants of Health](#), Course ID# 1060553: Jeff Niederdeppe, PhD,

Associate Professor, Department of Communication, Cornell University discusses how public health advocates can use message framing, narratives and visual imagery to shape public opinion and debate on the social conditions that shape the health and well-being of populations. Neiderdeppe focuses on public health campaigns that have worked to increase awareness and promote action to address social determinants of health. He discusses how public health messages aim to target policymakers and the public (both those in support and those in opposition) in order to achieve the goal of a health campaign aimed to reduce health disparities. Participants will learn that public health communications education and awareness may not be enough to address social determinants of health, it is important to connect messages to broader values and opposing messengers are a challenge.

[Protecting the Public from Mosquito-borne Illnesses](#), Course ID# 1063066: The Zika Challenge: On March 25, Beth P. Bell, MD, MPH, Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases, discussed the latest research findings about the current Zika outbreak and provided an overview of how health officials and health care providers can protect the public's health from Zika virus infection. Dr. Bell describes prevention messages targeting the public and special groups such as pregnant women and travelers, and identifies credible resources that health officials and health care providers can use to train staff and educate the community about Zika and other mosquito-borne illnesses.

[Shaping Organizational Culture: The Role of Leaders](#), Course ID# 1063065: Leaders at all organizational levels assume many roles in establishing consensus, setting strategic direction and motivating performance. One of the most important roles a leader plays is shaping the organizational culture. This webinar will introduce public health professionals to the essential tasks of effective leaders and highlight leaders' behaviors, attitudes and values that shape an adaptive organizational culture. Participants will also learn about principles and strategies for helping an organization become less bureaucratic and more adaptive.

## News and Resources



### Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Call

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) hosts a Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Call on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 10 a.m. The next call will be May 24. To view minutes from the monthly calls, click the KDHE logo.

### Vital Signs: Preparing for Local Mosquito-Borne Transmission of Zika Virus - United States, 2016

#### Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)

Widespread Zika virus transmission in the Region of the Americas has heightened the urgency of preparing for the possibility of expansion of mosquito-borne transmission of Zika virus during the 2016 mosquito season. In April the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention held a one day Zika Action Plan Summit, which focused on awareness and planning for U.S. state and local jurisdictions most likely to face [mosquito-borne transmission of Zika virus](#) in the coming months.

### Staying Safe in a Tornado

To stay safe during a tornado, prepare a plan and emergency kit, stay aware of weather conditions during thunderstorms, know the best places to shelter both indoors and outdoors, and always protect your head.

[Here are three important tips to help keep you safe.](#) Click the Tornado to learn more.

TIP ①: Be prepared.

TIP ②: Stay aware of weather conditions.

TIP ③: Know where to shelter.



### Should the Government Have a Monopoly on Public Health



Why is it that we confuse public health with public health agencies? According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) "Public health is the science of protecting and improving the health of families and communities through promotion of healthy lifestyles, research for disease and injury prevention and detection and control of infectious diseases." Under that definition, [we may all be in the business of public health](#). Each of us, by examining our own lifestyles, tries to determine the healthiest way to live. Click the logo to read the full article.

### Three Key Takeaways from the Alignment of Health and Community Development Initiative



The Alignment of Health and Community Development Initiative (AHEAD) seeks to reduce health inequities, partnering with local and regional stakeholders in five U.S. cities to improve health by focusing new investment streams toward interventions that address social, economic and community conditions. These efforts ensure that community investments are smarter, more strategic, more aligned and more effective. AHEAD is a program of the [Public Health Institute](#) in partnership with the Reinvestment Fund in Philadelphia, working collaboratively with a regional health council and a local community development corporation in Detroit and four public health institutes: [Georgia Health Policy Center](#), [Health Resources in Action](#) in Massachusetts, [Texas Health Institute](#) and the [Oregon Public Health Institute](#).

### The Risk of Lead Poisoning isn't Just in Flint



Neighborhoods where kids face the [highest risk of lead poisoning](#) exist all across America. The trouble is that exposure risk is surprisingly difficult to estimate, due to a variety of state-by-state differences in reporting standards. So the Vox team worked with epidemiologists in Washington state to estimate risk levels in every geographic area in America. Click the Vox logo to access a community lead risk exposure map.

### Watch How the Measles Outbreak Spreads When Kids Get Vaccinated – and When They Don't



Visual graphics of 10 hypothetical communities with different vaccination rates show just how important high rates of immunization can be to protect everyone against measles. If you run the simulation enough times, only very highly vaccinated groups are able to consistently block measles infection from their community. [Click here](#) to view the chart simulations.

### Top 10 Causes of Death from the Environment



The World Health Organization (WHO) has recently published a very visual report/poster, the [Environmental Impacts on Health, What is the Big Picture](#). WHO states that 8.2 million out of 12.6 million deaths caused by the environment are due to non-communicable diseases.





### How CDC Protects America's Employers and Workers

U.S. employers rely on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) scientists and health experts for guidance and solutions that can improve workers' health while boosting productivity. From flu shots and travel apps to up-to-date guidance about public health threats like Zika and multi-state foodborne outbreaks, CDC contributes to [keeping U.S. businesses and workers healthy and safe](#). In this issue of Business Pulse, explore five ways CDC helps protect the health of your business, including emergency preparedness, food safety, travelers' health, global health security and flu preparedness.

### EPA Chief McCarthy: Public Health is What We Do



You may not think about public health when you think about the Environmental Protection Agency. But Administrator Gina McCarthy wants you to. There are "challenges to our health and well-being that result from exposures to pollution," said McCarthy. "While we are called the Environmental Protection Agency, [our major role is public health](#). That is what we do." The administrator — who has drawn fire from opponents of stricter air pollution standards as well those who say the agency failed to act quickly enough in Flint, Michigan started her career as a local health officer. Click the logo to read the complete article by Kaiser Health News.

### Opioid RX Guidelines



Saving lives and ending the prescription drug overdose epidemic requires healthcare providers and patients to work together. Safe pain relief is important to the quality of life for millions of Americans. A [new CDC guideline](#) recommends ways to reduce the risks of prescription opioid pain medications. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued [new voluntary guidelines for prescribing opioid medications](#) for chronic pain, in response to America's rampant prescription drug crisis. Twelve recommendations were developed for primary care providers, who account for prescribing nearly half of all opioid prescriptions, to offer patients alternative treatments for pain, such as non-addictive, non-opioid painkillers and physical therapy. The CDC emphasizes that non-opioid therapy is the preferred treatment method for patients in chronic pain, but clarifies that the guidelines are not intended for approaching the treatment of patients in active cancer treatment, palliative care or end-of-life care.

### AAP Addressing Poverty and Child Health



The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recently released a policy statement that identifies how poverty affects children's health and recommends for the first time that pediatricians routinely screen children for [poverty risk factors](#). One in five U.S. children lives in poverty, and poverty is an important determinant of child health. The AAP provides resources to help pediatricians and partners with caring for children in poverty, including practice tips, communications materials and advocacy resources.

### World Happiness Report 2016



The results are in for the [2016 World Happiness Report](#) and the U.S is not in the top 10. Released in March by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network for the United Nations, this year's 156 countries were ranked based on happiest levels calculated by evaluating different variables including gross domestic product (GDP) per capita, social support, life expectancy and generosity, to name a few. The report urges all nations, regardless of wealth, to tackle inequality and protect the environment.

### Association Between Vaccine Refusal and Vaccine-Preventable Diseases in the United States: A Review of Measles and Pertussis



A substantial proportion of the U.S. measles cases in the era after elimination were intentionally unvaccinated. The phenomenon of vaccine refusal was associated with an increased risk for measles among people who refuse vaccines and among fully vaccinated individuals. Although pertussis resurgence has been attributed to waning immunity and other factors, [vaccine refusal](#) was still associated with an increased risk for pertussis in some populations.

### U.S. Cities that Could be Hit by a Zika Outbreak



A recent study in the journal [PLOS Currents: Outbreaks](#) found 50 U.S. cities where the six-legged, blood-sucking vector of the virus — the mosquito *Aedes aegypti* — would be able to survive in the upcoming summer months. Nine of those cities, home to an estimated 14 million people, could have a high abundance of the virus-carrying mosquitoes by July, the study says, and the mosquito could be a problem as far north as New York.

### Job Postings

Applications are being accepted for the positions listed below.

#### Butler County Health Department

- [Community Health Nurse](#)

#### Ford County Health Department

- [Public Health Nurse](#)

#### Geary County Health Department

- [Licensed Practical Nurse \(LPN\)](#)
- [Nurse Practitioner \(ARNP\)](#)
- [WIC Registered Dietitian](#)

#### Harvey County Health Department

- [Fiscal Management Coordinator](#)

#### Pottawatomie County Health Department

- [Public Health Nurse](#)

#### Reno County Health Department

- [Public Health Nurse Stand by \(PRN\)](#)
- [Public Health Nurse II - Grant Funded](#)

#### Riley County Health Department

- [Health Department Administrator](#)
- [Nursing Supervisor](#)

#### Sedgwick County Health Department

- [Behavioral Intervention Specialist](#)
- [Public Health Specialist](#)
- [Healthy Babies Nurse](#)
- [STD-TB Control Program Manager](#)



Career opportunities at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment can be found [here](#).

#### Kansas Department of Health and Environment Program Newsletters

[Epi Updates Newsletter](#)

[Green Guide](#)

[Health Homes Herald](#)

[KanCare Advisor](#)

[Kansas Environmental News](#)

[Kansas Health Statistics Report](#)

[Simmelweis Times](#)

[Kansas Statewide Farmworker Health Program](#)

[Newborn Screening Newsletter](#)

[Nutrition and WIC Update](#)

[Oral Health Newsletter](#)

[What's Happening Wednesday \(Immunization\)](#)

[ZIPS Newsletter - Bureau of Family Health/Children and Families](#)

#### Public Health Connections Information

To receive the monthly E-Newsletter, e-mail [bchs@kdheks.gov](mailto:bchs@kdheks.gov).

Previous issues of Public Health Connections may be found at

[http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/public\\_health\\_connections.htm](http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/public_health_connections.htm).

Send your public health news to

Debbie Nickels at [dnickels@kdheks.gov](mailto:dnickels@kdheks.gov).